



The National Partnership for Community Leadership
"Strengthening Communities and Organizations to Serve People for the Future"

CASE STUDY 5

Jack and Bonnie

Jack and Bonnie are both 23 years, unmarried, have been in a romantic relationship for the last three years, and have a child. They both believe that the relationship is becoming too stifling and want to date others. Jack has a child from another relationship and is several months behind on his child support payments. Jack and Bonnie had frequent arguments of late about their desire not to be in a monogamous relationship. A two-year-old son Michael has been witnessing their frequent arguments and is unsure what to say or do to either of his parents. He has grown increasingly close to his grandmother Mimi, Bobby's mother, who has tried unsuccessfully to keep Jack and Bonnie from arguing and acting up in front of Michael. After almost a year of going back and forth with whether they want to stay together or leave the relationship, Jack and Bonnie have decided to end their relationship and move on. Neither of them has thought about this care Michael was they split up. Additionally, Bonnie is considering pursuing child support after the breakup and not allowing Jack to visit their son.